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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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April 28, 1978

Presidential Review Memorandum/NSC-35

TO:

The Vice President

The Secretary of State
The Secretary of Commerce

The Secretary of Defense

Also:

The Director, Office of Management and Budget The Assistant to the President for Domestic Affairs and Policy

The Director, Agency for International Development

The Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
The Director of Central Intelligence

The Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration

The Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy

The Director, International Communications Agency

The Chairman, Board for International Broadcasting

The Chairman, Federal Communications
Commission

SUBJECT:

International Communications Policy (C)

The PRC/NSC is directed to prepare for the President a report recommending an overall policy with respect to major negotiations and inter-governmental discussions on international communications issues, including:

-- the review of radio frequency allocations at the 1979 World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC) held under the auspices of the International Telecommunications Union;

-- consideration by the UN Outer Space Committee of principles concerning direct international television broadcasting by satellites;

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by the Medienel Security Council, under previous of E.O. 12006
by _B. Zweiben

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-- the declaration of principles governing use of the mass media, which will be considered again in the UNESCO General Conference in the fall of 1978; and

-- questions related to the trans-border flow of data, which are being considered in the OECD, Council of Europe, and the European Community.

The review should identify and take into account relationships among the foregoing negotiations and discussions and should include, but need not be limited to, consideration of the following factors:

- -- Major U.S. interests and objectives. This should include U.S. support of the free flow of information and ideas, U.S. commercial and economic interests, U.S. interests in collateral issues such as efforts of equatorial states to claim portions of geosynchronous orbits, and privacy considerations.
- -- Current U.S. negotiating positions, preparations for international conferences and the implications (including domestic and Congressional reactions) of the options of maintaining present positions and of adopting alternatives;
- -- other major problems or opportunities expected to arise in the next five to ten years.

To the extent the policy proposals herein imply changes in:
(i) the on-going coordination for U.S. participation in
international telecommunications conferences and negotiations
(such as the 1979 WARC); or (ii) the continuing examination
of trans-border data flow issues by the Inter-Agency Task
Force on Protecting Privacy in International Data Processing,
the policy proposals shall include specific recommendations.

For the purposes of this review, the PRC will be chaired by the Secretary of State or his Deputy and will include the addressees of this memorandum. At the discretion of the Chairman, other agencies may be invited to participate in aspects of the review of special interest from the standpoint of their responsibilities.

The FCC and BIB are invited to participate in a manner consistent with their special status.

The report should be completed and available for discussion by the PRC by June 30, 1973.

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